



Supporting and Engaging Families

Successful family engagement requires constant efforts to engage and support families in your program. Examine the strategies below and personalize them for your particular situation.

Strategy	Personalization
Develop their own skills and talents	
Provide information on adult literacy, GED, and ESL classes in the community.	
Conduct a job skills or resume-writing event for parents who are out of work.	
Conduct parenting classes, or connect parents to classes in the community.	
Engage in fun and educational activities with their children	
Plan and implement family events several times a year.	
Remind families about the importance of family involvement by sharing research on how it improves youth's academic and life outcomes.	
Involve families in projects and special events.	
Find innovative and engaging ways to get to know your program families.	
Incorporate program youth into designing and providing different involvement opportunities.	
Participate in running out-of-school time programs	
Invite parents to become members of your advisory committee	
Create a program "Family Handbook" which clearly welcomes families and offers them ways to get involved.	
Connect with schools and with community resources	
Think of your program as a hub where families can share ideas and resources, seek out support, and problem solve with other families or staff.	
Go off-site! Visit families at places of worship, popular meeting places, and their homes.	
Create a space at your site for families to network, talk to staff members, and connect with community resources.	
Other:	